



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lynn McDonald named Chief Officer of Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute

NASHVILLE, TN – Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts announced today the promotion of Lynn McDonald to the position of Chief Officer of Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute here. McDonald most recently served as the interim Chief Officer at the facility since the promotion of Joe Carobene to the position of Deputy Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. Middle Tennessee is one of five state-operated mental health institutes serving adults and adolescents.

“Lynn has worked faithfully at Middle Tennessee for many years,” Betts said. “Clearly her experience and knowledge about the facility is invaluable. With her background as an advanced practice nurse, Lynn understands the strong importance of achieving quality clinical outcomes for the many complex people we serve.”

Beginning her career as a registered nurse at Western Mental Health Institute in Bolivar, McDonald has worked in the department since 1973. Three years later, she accepted a nursing position at Middle Tennessee and has worked in a number of roles at the facility since that time. In her last position as Assistant Superintendent for Program Services, McDonald was responsible for leading a number of areas including the administrative direction of acute, extended, forensic and children and youth treatment programs.

“I am excited about this opportunity and since my beginnings as a nurse in the department, I feel like I have come full-circle. I am excited to work in this new position and I look forward to working with Commissioner Betts. As a nurse, she understands patient care and I believe our department is well-positioned to take on new challenges under her leadership,” McDonald said.

(MORE)

A clinical instructor, McDonald also teaches at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Tennessee Technological University and is a frequent lecturer at other schools of nursing. She also trains law enforcement and jail personnel on understanding and responding to persons with psychosis.

McDonald holds an Associate of Arts degree in Nursing from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Master of Science degree in Nursing from Vanderbilt University.

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